



5 of 6



NARCISSE
ABEL
JOHN

BATMAN:
GOTHAM

KNIGHTS
CITY



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22
V
K4RON





DAWN OF DC ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN JON KENT

THE NEXT CHAPTER IN
THE SAGA OF THE
SUPER SON LEADS TO...
INJUSTICE

#1

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Written by
**TOM
TAYLOR**

Art by
CLAYTON

A new
6-issue
series
March

FORGING THE FUTURE

MYSTERIES & MASKS

GOTHAM OUTSKIRTS.
PRESENT DAY.

EVAN NARCISSE writer
ABEL artist
JOHN colorist
STEVE WANDS letterer
GREG CAPULLO,
JONATHAN GLAPION
& DAVE McCAIG cover
BEN TEMPLESMITH variant cover
BEN MEARES associate editor
KATIE KUBERT editor
Batman created by
Bob Kane with Bill Finger





AND A SLEEP
DART FOR YOUR
BUDDIES...

FWIP

FWIP

SKRTXCYCH

WELL, ROBIN,
CYCLICAL CONCERN'S
DEPLOYED A LOT OF
RESOURCES TO
GUARD A DEFUNCT
COAL MINE.

PERIMETER
PATROL'S OUT.
BACKUP'S
PROBABLY ON
THEIR WAY.

HIGHER-UPS
TOLD US TO EXPECT
THE BAT'S CREW.
DIDN'T THINK IT'D
BE THE BRAT...



THE BATCAVE.

"...IS DEFINITELY PART OF WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH NOW."

ALFRED!
WE'VE GOT A
CBP #3!

CBP #3? IS THIS
A *CIRCUS* THING
YOU NEVER TOLD ME
ABOUT WHEN WE
WERE DATING?

CLASSIC *BRUCE*
PROBLEMS. MADE
UP A WHOLE LIST
BACK WHEN I
WORE THE "R."

I...I'M
FINE.

WHAT'S A
NUMBER 3?

IF I RECALL
CORRECTLY, IT'S
WHEN MASTER
BRUCE REFUSES
TO REST.

EXACTLY. SO
YOU'RE GOING
TO KEEP HIM
HERE.

I DON'T
HAVE TIME FOR
THIS. NEED TO
GET BACK OUT
THERE.

YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO BE
GOOD TO ANYONE
IF YOU COLLAPSE!
EVEN *YOU* HAVE
YOUR LIMITS!

DICK IS RIGHT.
WE'LL BE OUT THERE
AND THE THOMPKINS
CLINIC WILL COORDINATE
WITH EMERGENCY
SERVICES AND FIRST
RESPONDERS.

JUST
REST FOR
ONE SHIFT,
BRUCE...

"...WE'LL ALL
MAKE SURE
THINGS DON'T
GET WORSE."

RED HOOD
INVESTIGATION LOG #5:
OKAY, *LUCIUS*, YOU'VE
HAD ME LOOKING INTO
CYCLICAL CONCERN
FOR THE LAST FEW
WEEKS.

**SANTA PRISCA.
PRESENT DAY.**

THEIR DRONES?
DEFINITELY *NOT* KOSHER.
SHADY DATA HARVESTING
ALGORITHMS AND
ILLEGALLY WEAPONIZED
WITH TASERS AND
WORSE.

IT'S BEEN
IDENTICAL LAYOUTS IN
ALL OF THE COMPOUNDS
I'VE INFILTRATED. BUT THIS
ONE'S GOT A SECRET
ROOM, WHICH
SHOULD BE...

...RIGHT
HERE.

COULDA
SWORN I HEARD
SOMETHING...
PROBABLY
NOTHING.



AN EMPTY, OFF-THE-BOOKS LAB. DEFINITELY WASN'T AT CYCLICAL'S OTHER FACILITIES.



NOT SURE WHAT THIS STUFF IS BUT THE SMART MONEY SAYS IT'S SOME SORT OF BIO-WEAPON.



WAIT, THESE DRONES ARE HEADED FOR GOTHAM. THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT--



UNNGH!



HEADED TO GOTHAM, INDEED. AND *YOU* WON'T BE STOPPING THEM.

"MY HUSBAND WAS BORN IN THIS CITY..."

GOTHAM CITY, 1847.

...EITHER YOU
PADDYROLLERS
DROP HIM OR I'LL
DROP YOU.

YA MIGHT
COULD TAKE ONE
OF US, WENCH.
BUT WE STILL
OUTNUMBER
YOU.

NOT FOR
LONG.

THIS IS
FOR TRYING TO
STEAL ME AWAY
FROM MY
FAMILY!

WHERE WERE
THEY GOING TO
TAKE HIM? TO SOME
PLANTATION DOWN
SOUTH?

YOU TWO
NEED TO TAKE
LES PETITES
AWAY FROM
HERE...

"...THERE'S MORE DANGER ON THE HORIZON."

I CAN'T BELIEVE THE CITY IS CONTINUING THIS "CELEBRATION"! PEOPLE ARE SICK AND DYING! BEING DRAGGED FROM THEIR HOMES!

LET'S MOVE AWAY FROM THESE CROWDS, DEAR.

THOSE WHO HAVE THE FREEDOM TO FORGET ARE TRYING THE HARDEST TO DO SO...

"...BUT MOST OF US *DON'T* HAVE THAT LUXURY."





VIVIAN, MAYBE WE SHOULD LEAVE GOTHAM, GET YOUR PAPERS NOTARIZED ELSEWHERE...

ABSOLUTELY NOT, PORTIA. YOU STILL HAVE WORK THAT NEEDS DOING HERE. WORK THAT COULD SAVE MANY LIVES.



SO WE STAY, THEN. TOGETHER.

TOGETHER.



NOW LET'S GET HOME. I'VE ANOTHER MEETING TONIGHT AND NEED TO GATHER MY THINGS BEFORE I HEAD OFF.



YOU'RE NEVER AFRAID THAT SOMEONE MIGHT SEE US, ARE YOU?

WE HAVE TO PLEAD FOR OUR FREEDOMS. KEEP OUR LOVE HIDDEN. ANYONE WHO WANTS TO FIND US...

"...MUST BE BRAVE
ENOUGH TO FACE
SOCIETY'S SHADOWS."

SO THIS IS
THE *BAT-SPAWN*
RUMORED TO HAVE
BEEN *RESURRECTED*.
THE ONE WHO HAS
KILLED HIS PREY.

SANTA PRISCA.
PRESENT DAY.

AND NOW
YOU WILL
SERVE MY
NEEDS, *RED
HOOD*.

WHAT SECRET
URGES ARE YOU
HIDING *UNDER
THAT MASK*? WHAT
IS IT YOU *REALLY
WANT*?

B-B-BATMAN!



ALFRED...
GIVE ME A
REPORT.

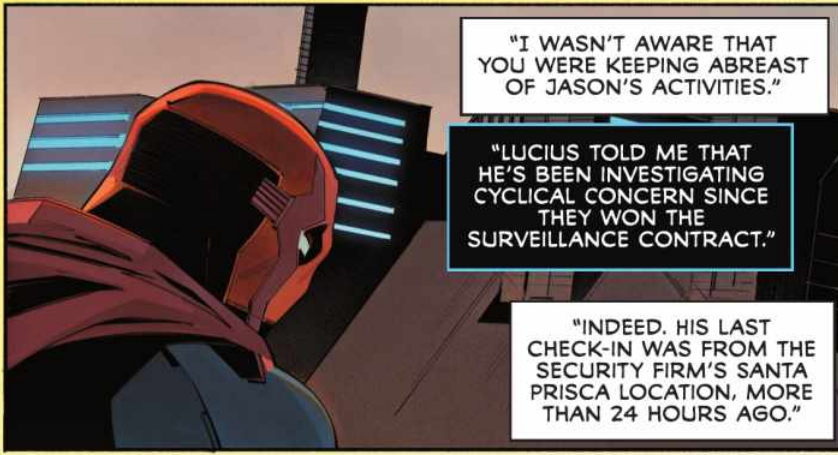
"NIGHTWING AND BATGIRL ARE
ASSISTING MR. FOX WITH GETTING
COMMUNICATIONS BACK ONLINE."



"ANY WORD
FROM ROBIN?
WHAT ABOUT
RED HOOD?"



"TIM WENT OFF TO THE
OLD COBBLEPOT COAL
MINES TO INVESTIGATE A
LEAD. HE'S BEEN RADIO
SILENT EVER SINCE."



"I WASN'T AWARE THAT
YOU WERE KEEPING ABREAST
OF JASON'S ACTIVITIES."

"LUCIUS TOLD ME THAT
HE'S BEEN INVESTIGATING
CYCLICAL CONCERN SINCE
THEY WON THE
SURVEILLANCE CONTRACT."

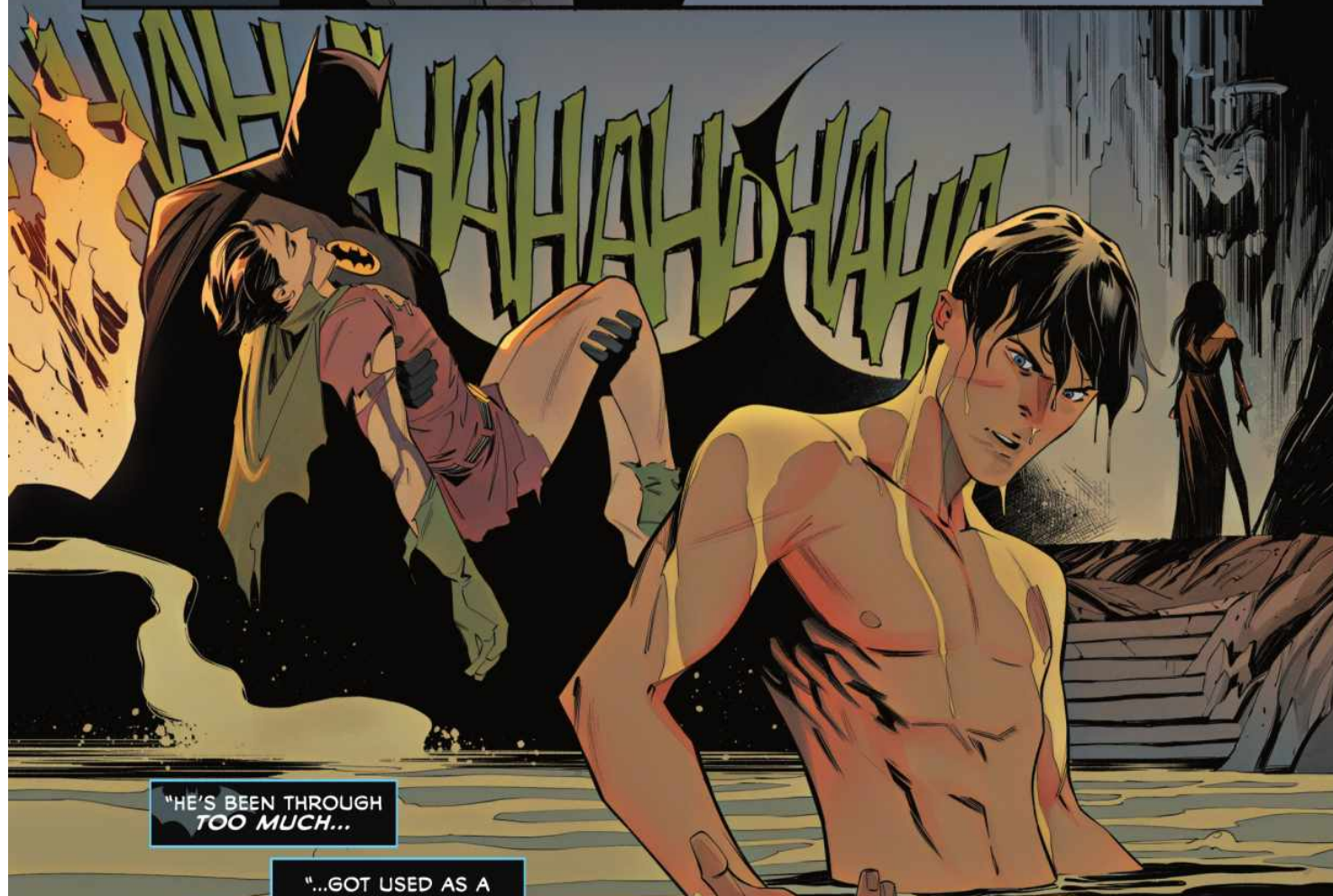
"INDEED. HIS LAST
CHECK-IN WAS FROM THE
SECURITY FIRM'S SANTA
PRISCA LOCATION, MORE
THAN 24 HOURS AGO."



JASON AND
TIM BOTH M.I.A.
BOTH LIKELY IN
NEED OF
BACKUP.

SHALL I SEND
NIGHTWING OR
BATGIRL TO THEIR
LAST KNOWN
LOCATIONS?

NO, THEY
NEED TO STAY
ON TASK AND
HELP LUCIUS GET
THE NETWORKS
FUNCTIONING.



"...AND CAME
BACK HELL-BENT
ON REVENGE.

"WE BARELY
PULLED HIM
BACK FROM
THE BRINK.

FUN LAND

"WE...I...
CAN'T LOSE
HIM AGAIN.

NO SIGNAL

PREP THE
BATWING FOR
TAKEOFF. NIGHTWING
AND BATGIRL CAN
TRACK ROBIN ONCE
COMMS ARE
BACK UP.

FINALLY!
THE DARK
KNIGHT PICKS
UP THE DAMN
PHONE!

COMMUNICATIONS
NETWORKS HAVE BEEN
DOWN, *QUINN*. WHAT DO
YOU HAVE FOR ME?



THIS PLACE HAS BEEN FILLING UP WITH THOSE POOR SUCKERS WITH THE SCREWY **GOLDEN EYES**. GOT ME A DECENT SAMPLE SIZE NOW.

WE'VE SEEN VICTIMS REVERT BACK TO NORMAL AFTER ACHIEVING THEIR OBSESSIONS.



YEAH, THE VIRUS MAKES 'EM GO CRAZY FOR THINGS THEY WANT. THE DEEPER FOLKS BURIED THOSE DESIRES, THE SICKER THEY GOT.

BUT THE ONES WHO CAN'T FULFILL THOSE CRAVINGS? THEY START CONVULSING AND GO CATATONIC.

MY PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE VIRUS, IN HOPES OF FINDING A CURE.



WHERE ARE YOU FLYIN' OFF TO WHILE "YOUR PEOPLE" DO ALL THAT, BATS?

I'M TRYING TO FIND SOMEONE AT RISK OF BURNING OUT BECAUSE OF OBSESSION. I'LL BE IN TOUCH.



HOLY CRAP, ONE OF THESE GUYS JUST **EXPLODED INTO FLAMES!**



"I DIDN'T DO IT, I SWEAR! HELLO, BATMAN?! HELLO?!"

"YOU STILL ALIVE
OUT THERE, BATS?!"

BATWING,
ACTIVATE AUTOPILOT.
MAINTAIN HOLDING
PATTERN.

ALFRED, HAVE
YOU LOCKED
ON RED HOOD'S
TRANSPONDER
SIGNAL YET?

SYSTEMS
ARE BACK UP
BUT I CANNOT
PINPOINT HIM
AS YET.

REDIRECT
SATELLITE PINGS
TO HIS LAST
KNOWN LOCATION
AND EXPAND
OUTWARD.

NEVER
MIND. I'VE
FOUND
HIM.





"...AND UPDATE
THE REST OF THE
BAT-TEAM!"

THOUGHT I WAS
GOING TO HAVE TO
HIJACK A JET TO GET
TO GOTHAM. AWFUL
NICE OF YOU TO COME
TO ME INSTEAD,
BATMAN.

I DON'T
KNOW HOW YOU
GOT EXPOSED
BUT THERE'S A
VIRUS...**YOU'RE
SICK.**

YOU DON'T
GET TO CALL
ME SICK! **NOT
ANYMORE!**

BLAM BLAM

BLAM

KING

YOUR
EYES...

I'M SEEING
CLEARER THAN
EVER! *I* SHOULD
BE THE ONE
PROTECTING
GOTHAM!

BLAM

YOU JUST
WANT TO KEEP
DOING YOUR
SICK DANCE
WITH THE
CLOWN!

LET THEM
KILL EACH OTHER.
WHOEVER'S LEFT
STANDING CAN FACE
MY FINAL RECKONING
AS GOTHAM GIVES
ME WHAT'S
MINE.

YOU
WANTED ME
TO **STAY
DEAD!**

BLAM

**POK
POK**

PLEASE...
NIGHTWING
AND THE
OTHERS...

GOTHAM CITY.
YEARS AGO.

"...THEY NEED
YOU."

INTEL WAS
DEAD-ON, ALFRED.
GOT EYES ON THE
BLACK MASK CREW
PUTTING DOWN
CASH FOR
WEAPONS.

AND,
SPEAKING
OF PEOPLE
WHO LOVE
GUNS...

Y'KNOW,
YOU'RE **NOT**
REALLY SUPPOSED
TO BE IN TOWN WHEN
THE BIG GUY ISN'T
AROUND.

IS THAT RIGHT,
MR. FAVORITE
SON?

YOU STOPPED BY TO CHECK
IN ON **THE SCREW-UP**?
GONNA **TATTLE**?

WHAT? NO!
BESIDES, BATMAN
ACTUALLY **LIKES**
SEEING YOU.

YOU'VE
ALWAYS BEEN
WRONG ABOUT
BATMAN. ABOUT
WHAT HE'S
TRYING TO
DO.

WHAT, IT'S NOT
ABOUT BASHING SKELS'
HEADS IN BECAUSE OF
WHAT HAPPENED TO
HIS PARENTS?

YOU WERE WITH
HIM LONG ENOUGH
TO KNOW BETTER
THAN THAT.

YEAH,
RIGHT!
TELL ME
ANOTHER
ONE.

IT'S ABOUT
LETTING PEOPLE
KNOW THAT
SOMEONE OUT
THERE IN THE
DARKNESS IS
COMING TO
HELP.

C'MON, JUST
BECAUSE HE'S MAKING
ME GO TO THERAPY
DOESN'T MEAN YOU
GOTTA TRY AND SELL
ME ON THIS.



THINK ABOUT IT. WHY LET BABS CONTINUE AS BATGIRL? WHY TAKE YOU ON AFTER I LEFT? WHY TIM?

HE NEEDS BODIES FOR "THE MISSION." DUH.

YOU KNOW IT WAS BATMAN WHO ASKED GORDON TO PUT THE SIGNAL UP? NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND. BABS HEARD HER DAD TALKING ABOUT IT ONE NIGHT.

SO WHAT'S YOUR POINT?

BOOM

HE WANTS PEOPLE TO **KNOW**. THAT WE'RE OUT HERE. THAT EVERY ONE OF US IS A PIECE OF THE NIGHT THAT CARES WHAT HAPPENS.

HE'S BUILDING WHAT HE NEEDED IN CRIME ALLEY ALL THOSE YEARS AGO. A BIGGER VERSION OF WHAT LESLIE AND ALFRED GAVE HIM...



YOINK

AGGGH!



...A SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR PEOPLE ON THE EDGE.

FOR HIMSELF, TOO, I GUESS?



LIKE YOU SAID: DUH. SO ASK YOURSELF, ARE YOU HERE TO HELP PEOPLE...

"...OR HURT THEM?"

THE PRESENT.

KLIK
KLIK KLIK

THE TEAM
NEEDS YOUR
STRENGTH. *Unght*
YOUR RESILIENCE.
WE NEED YOUR
HELP.

I NEED
YOUR HELP.

GRRRN...
N-NO...YOU
HAVE TO
P-PAY...

AAARRRGH!

UNGH!

Gotham Outskirts, 1847.

MY
LOVE? I'VE
RETURNED...

HELLO?

VIVIAN,
NO...

I'LL
GET YOU
BACK...

YOU DO
KNOW WHO
VIOLATED YOUR
SANCTUM, DON'T
YOU, *LITTLE
RUNAWAY?*

HOW DID
YOU FIND
ME?!

I'VE BEEN
TRACKING
PREY FOR
CENTURIES
NOW. MORE
DIFFICULT IN A
LABYRINTH
LIKE GOTHAM,
BUT NOT
IMPOSSIBLE.

...NO
MATTER
WHAT I
MUST
DO.



YOUR RAGE
TELLS ME YOUR
ENEMIES TOOK
SOMETHING OF
VALUE.

NOT
SOMETHING,
SOMEONE.



YES, WELL, IT
MUST BE THOSE
SCHEMING
OWLS WHO ARE
RESPONSIBLE.

THEY
POISON THE
MOST VULNERABLE,
EXPLOIT THEIR
LIVES, DEFILE THEIR
CORPSES...

...BUT THAT ALL
ENDS TONIGHT.
SO SWEARS *THE*
RUNAWAY!

The cover art features a large, menacing figure of Ra's al Ghul in the background, wearing a dark, fur-trimmed coat and holding a large, glowing sword. In the foreground, Batman is shown in a crouched, bloody position, looking up at the villain. The background is a fiery orange and red. The title and other text are overlaid on the image.

Why won't Batman save the world?

The last of
eight 64-page
Prestige format
specials starring
the Dark Knight's
worst enemies
in their best
stories yet.

BATMAN
ONE BAD DAY
RA'S AL GHUL #1
TOM TAYLOR
IVAN REIS



DAWN OF DC

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

HARLEY QUINN

How is this new era of *Harley Quinn* different from what we've seen from the character in the past?

This is going to be—at least at the start—a character piece first and foremost. We'll be exploring a bit of Harley's rich...inner life, let's say. We're trying to see how she approaches the kind of lovely normalcy lots of heroes aspire to: an apartment with her girlfriend, Ivy, her pets, a (court-ordered) job... more on that later. [Laughs]



Which aspects of Harley are you looking to explore at the start? Just by the very nature of the character, she lends herself to a wide variety of stories (and storytelling).

When you're mentally ill like Harley (or me—let's get that out of the way), there's a level of self-sabotage that can feel *cosmically* hard to overcome.

It's a struggle that I've always wanted to write about, and Harley just reminds me of one of my favorite ways to overcome a struggle: by laughing about it. I think a Harley book should be laugh-out-loud funny in a way that maybe sometimes makes you say "ow."



What kind of journey is Harley on in this opening arc?

Well, when I landed on "Girl in a Crisis" as a title it sort of wrapped it in a bow for us. She's trying to find what normalcy is for her, and what it'll take to get there.

AN INTERVIEW WITH TINI HOWARD

Harley enters the Dawn of DC era in *Harley Quinn* #28 from writer Tini Howard and artist Sweeney Boo, ushering in a new status quo for the title character when a fight with Two-Face leads to a new (legally mandated) gig. Plus, each issue features a backup story, as a revolving cast of all-star talent presents Harley's wild—and in-continuity!—dreams.

What's most exciting about collaborating with Sweeney Boo on this series?

Oh my god, what's not? Sweeney is turning in truly beautiful pages. There's something so confident and fully realized in all of her panels—it really gives me the chance to go nuts. Bright, beautiful, kinetic, real, but also just leaning into the *Looney Tunes* madness of a Harley Quinn comic. I'm having the best time with Sweeney!

I gotta also tease: the backups for this book are *incredible*. Some real modern legends in the mix, doing super cool work.



**DON'T MISS
HARLEY QUINN #28,
ON SALE IN MARCH!**

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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...
THIS MONSTER!"

